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12 Oct 64

0 SUBJECT: Trip of Prof George LUTSKYI of University of Toronto, Ont., Canada to KIEV and MOSCOW in May 1964. *acc: professor* **8P**

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1. In May 1964 Subject went to Moscow to discuss students exchange

between Canada and the USSR and after two weeks there went privately through the Inturist to KIEV. In Kiev he stayed from 21 to 26 May 1964. While there, as a luxury-class tourist he had to pay \$ 35.- per day and had for 3 hours every day a car at his disposition. At the KIEV AIRPORT he was met by a female Inturist guide who spoke good English but very bad Ukrainian. Subject tried to talk to her in Ukrainian but she simply did not know the language. Next day he was given another guide - a LUBENLA, Inu - who spoke fine Ukrainian. Incidentally, on his visa Subject's name in Russian was written as "LANK" and not Lutskyi). In Kiev Subject stayed at hotel "Ukraine".

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2. Still while in Moscow Subject sent a postcard to PIDSUNIA, (Lemanlar) *contacted by Prof. George Lukyij of Univ. of Toronto in Kiev, USSR* to KIEV informing him that he will say him soon a visit to his home.

After his arrival in Kiev Subject went to PIDSUNIA'S house in Notstribunsky ul. Home address: Kiev, USSR. It was in the evening and he had some difficulty to find the building.

Finally it turned out that PIDSUNIA lived in a nearby building, though under the same address, on the 3rd floor. Subject met there PIDSUNIA'S wife, a medical doctor, and his daughter. The latter went to get her father who was at some writers' meeting. After 20 minutes she returned with PIDSUNIA himself. The latter seemed to be quite happy to see Subject. They treated him with a nice dinner.

The apartment was quite nicely decorated. Subject noticed on shelves some books he gave to PIDSUNIA when the latter visited Canada, among them Arhipenko's collection. When asked about other books PIDSUNIA was given or mailed to, he moved aside Arhipenko's collection and behind it there were all the others. Some of the books were also under the shelves in

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Anyway, evidently PIDSU LIA kept them all, incl. Proleg's publications.

On this occasion they discussed their unchanging of books and PIDSUNYA asked Subject to continue to send him "Proleg's" books from abroad but "only those I am interested in". (He the mentioned Subject sent him "Dehkomynia Dal".)

3. During their conversation Subject suggested that he would like to meet some other Ukrainian writers, colleagues of PIDSUNYA. The lat. replied that he will try his best but it wasn't easy as Subject refused to meet them at the Union of Ukrainian Writers (Subject did not want to be involved into any official or semi-official interviews) and insisted on a private encounter. According to PIDSUNYA, Prys. MILTYKH was at that time very ill and was in the hospital and he is now. And he is now in the hospital. Subject refused to meet him even in case like mentioned in New York, the only thing that will come out of this talk with MILTYKH. But he will convey Subject's wish to M. CASUL, Vitold. In the past PIDSUNYA had asked LUTSALO and the lat. or was supposed to phone Subject at his hotel. Neither, however, got in contact with Subject.

4. On PIDSUNYA'S suggestion Subject met at his home a colleague of PIDSUNYA - Leonid VINYCHENKO - who is generally known as belonging to "of social ones". All three discussed present situation in the literary field in the Ukraine and among other things Subject mentioned rehabilitation or rather lack of it, as to the period of '20's. VINYCHENKO'S reply was that they were trying to do their best and possible, and he could not agree with Subject the the rehabilitation of Ukrainian writers and poets had been recently "broken up". Then Subject mentioned LUTSALO, VINYCHENKO said that this was a big secret matter because LUTSALO is still "undesirable" in the Soviet Union. The lat. or was that: "They have prohibited the names: Any from Moscow". In VINYCHENKO'S view they have first to get VINYCHENKO rehabilitated and then will proceed to others.

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5. Since Subject could not find SHANRAI'S book at the library of the Academy of Sciences in Kiev NOVYCHENKO gave him his own exemplar which probably was used by others as editorial one. It had all kind of underlinings and crossings out articles etc. of passages referring to YULYANOV. NOVYCHENKO did not have however Shanrai's vol. II and III and told Subject to get it from ^{the} Director of the Shevchenko Institute. When Subject suggested to MYTELUK, Director of the ^{Shevchenko} Institute to make photocopies of Shanrai's works, the answer was that they could do it for him but it will take at least 6 weeks. Evidently this was a flat no since they knew that Subject was leaving in a few days or so. Moreover that the whole procedure was quite complicated; Subject was supposed to get first a permit from the Academy of Sciences of Ukrainian SSR to make such photocopies for him. Incidentally, Subject's visit to MYTELUK'S office lasted about 10-15 minutes. MYTELUK was "prepared" for the visit; accompanied by 6 or 7 of his co-workers (also one or two females) who seemed to be deeply involved in taking or reading some notes, he did not go beyond exchanging some civilities and after 15 minutes got up indicating that he wanted Subject to leave. When MYTELUK was seeing Subject out of his office Subject told him that he had to convey greetings from KOSTIUK Mykhail (of New York). MYTELUK replied: "O yes, I know such an individual, dopobachenko". On the whole it was Subject's impression that MYTELUK was by no means very happy about Subject's visit.

6. When discussing literary problems with NOVYCHENKO, Subject ascertained that NOVYCHENKO was quite familiar with Subject's works and with Ukrainian literature abroad.

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7. Together with his guide Ludmila - Subject visited one Gey "Pecheraino Lavra". He wanted to get some photocopies or reprints from the Museum of Ukrainian Art and told about it to Ludmila. The answer was that one could get them from the Association for Cultural Contacts with Abroad. Next day Ludmila brought Subject there. He was received at the premises of "Visti z Ukrainy" and met there MILODAN, AMELICH (probably from Western Ukraine), and LEVISHCHENKO. Somehow at once Subject got into argument with them on some literary Ukrainian problem and particularly LEVISHCHENKO was very vehement in his attacks against migration and "its literary achievements". The debate became so heated that Ludmila asked them whether she should leave the company. Fortunately for everybody, at that moment an elderly lady brought the reprints and the atmosphere changed. (The lady who brought the reprints was probably IGLO SNOVA as according to Subject's description).

MILODAN, editor of "Visti z Ukrainy" wanted to know Subject's opinion about ~~their~~ their paper. Subject replied that he did not read "Visti z Ukrainy" but gave them some suggestions like for instance they should write what they did with wheat they purchased in Canada etc. And not propaganda but factual material.

8. For two days prior to the person Subject worked at the Library of Academy of Sciences of Ukrainian SSR in Kiev. According to Subject the whole library was in quite a miserable shape. The building was old and not ~~maintained~~ kept properly. The organization of work was also bad. Books were badly conserved, card indices - handwritten, catalogues ~~from~~ ^{after} 1940 were ordered by authors, ~~from~~ ^{prior to} 1940 - by problematics. There were three reading rooms: a/ for scientists and professors, b/ for students and doctor-candidates, c/ for the public.

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Subject was looking for Shkare's books but could not find them. He found however 4 other rare books and returned them or rather notice where they were placed,

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through KOVCHENKO (books could not be taken out of library but placed on special shelves until finishing of reading).

On Sunday, 24 May 1964, at approx. 11.00 hrs Subject happened to be near the Library which was ablaze. From all windows there were flames of yellowish ^{coming out} color. The public stood around and stared.

Shortly afterwards Subject met PIDSUKHA. The latter only commented that "this was a great tragedy" and "There are others behind it..." He did not want, however, to elaborate. ^{Subject} ~~Subject~~ suggested ^{Albert} ~~one~~ should write to the Academy with proposal to help them with restoring the library - funds from duplicates and originals from abroad.

When Subject remarked that now eventually they could place the responsibility for the arson on him, Subject, PIDSUKHA replied he shouldn't worry, this would be completely stupid.

Next day, 25 May 1964 Subject went again to the library. Smokes were still forthcoming.

9. Subject wanted to discuss students exchange between Canada and Ukraine and for that purpose went to see SHVETS, Rector of Kiev University. Subject was received by Rector's secretary who spoke Russian and who told him that SHVETS was at that time in hospital recovering from some operation. She introduced him, however, to the Vice-Rector who spoke Ukrainian. He ^{of students} agreed with Subject that ~~in an~~ exchange between Canada and Ukraine was very desirable but Subject will have to talk about it in Moscow. In other words, all depended on Moscow. He added that in about two days the Rector himself will return from the hospital and Subject could see him personally.

Next time when Subject came to see SHVETS, he was received by another secretary who spoke Ukrainian and "confided" to Subject that she was told by the Rector to speak only Ukrainian with Subject.

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SEVENS was really recuperating from some illness and had still some trouble with moving. This caused somewhat "strange" situation when about 3 minutes after Subject's arrival at the office, someone knocked at the side-door; and SEVENS could not let him at once in. Finally he opened the door and in came the Vice-lector. He stayed until the end of the visit. ^{The} Rector also agreed with Subject on desirability of exchanging Canadian and Ukrainian students but made it quite clear that he (Subject) should discuss it in Moscow because final decision depended on the latter. He mentioned also another difficulty: the lack of proper premises for students in Kiev. But later on everybody agreed that this was only a secondary problem.

Subject mentioned also to the Rector that it would be advisable to let Canadian students studying in Moscow to take advantage of visiting and doing research at Kiev libraries. The Rector had nothing against it but again pointed out that this depended on Moscow's permission.

10. While in Kiev Subject not accidentally met Ukrainian writer in a restaurant by the name of KOLADA, from of ODESSA. He had a talk with him in Ukrainian. KOLADA was very well informed about the present situation in the literary field. Similarly Subject met two Ukrainian students from the Institute of Drama in Ivano Franka. One was from Lvov, the other from Poltava. They were conscious Ukrainians, well acquainted with Ukrainian theatre and literature. They also knew about Yosyp KURCHAK. All three discussed among other things also the rehabilitation of Mykola KULICH. It turned out that the students did not know about "Petetychna Sonata" though were acquainted with "Mama Maseillo".

A Russian student of Russian Literature ^{met} Subject in Kiev began to attack Subject as soon as he learned that Subject came from Canada. Strangely enough, the Russian student attacked him even for Odessa.

11. Subject wanted to ascertain in what language lectures were being read at the University in Kiev and went to one of classes. He had bad luck since he happened to be on a lecture on Ukrainian literature which ob-

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read in Ukrainian. When leaving the class Subject heard jazz in one of the rooms on the first floor but could not find this place.

According to PIDSUKHA all lecturing at the University is conducted in Ukrainian.

11. PIDSUKHA was unable to give DRACH'S address in Moscow but told Subject to contact him through a lady by the name SHILO,fnu who was working on editorial staff of "Drushba Narodiv" in Moscow. In Moscow Subject found the building and even with a greater difficulty the room in which the lady was sitting. It turned out that she was called SHILOVTSSEV, she knew DRACH but could not help Subject because DRACH had left just for the meeting of the Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kiev. The building and the room of SHILOVTSSEV made a very bad impression on Subject. It was ~~indistinguishable~~ almost half-demolished, small, uncomfortable.

12. General Impressions from Kiev. Subject noticed very much constructing going around but he was very skeptical as to its quality. In the streets he saw quite a few drunkards usually avoided by "drushin ikni" using different routes.

In cultural and other fields Kiev seemed to be a provincial city "yearning to imitate the center - Moscow". Some Ukrainian who spoke Russian knew very well Ukrainian but ^{in public} used the former. Inscriptions and names of streets are Ukrainian and "a deaf man would really get the impression that he is in a purely Ukrainian city".

Subject did not notice any surveillance and his recommendation was not to be afraid and try to go everywhere.

13. In Moscow Subject met a Russian student from Leningrad who ^{called} ~~introduced~~ KHEUSICHIEV a fool and told Subject that whenever KHEUSICHIEV comes to Leningrad there are at least 3 strikes going on. No one likes there Nikita Sergeevich and all think he is stupid.

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14. From Canadian sources staying in Moscow Subject heard the view that KHRUSHCHEV was under strong pressure of "Stalinists" in the CC of CPSU who were against his policy of cultural exchange. Stalinists claim that Khrushchev has lost in the cultural-exchange-warfare with the West.

15. The present rate of students exchange between Canada and the Soviet Union is 5 : 5. The Sovs will have in 1964/65 three students at the Agricultural Center near Toronto (Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph , Ont.), and two at the University of Toronto, Ont. (Physics and Chemistry).

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